



Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT CARD

Education Update for Orange County's Private Schools

April 2000

School Safety Update

Dear school administrators, faculty, staff, parents and students:

Of all the concerns our students, families and educators express to me, school safety is often the most urgent. During my visits to our local schools, I have discussed this issue with many of you. One thing we can all agree on is that keeping schools safe means more than installing metal detectors and checking lockers.

Our schools must have access to resources that will help you create secure learning environments. The cooperation of school personnel, students and their families, as well as others in the community is what leads to real security.

One problem in our area deals with traffic safety. So many local parents have expressed concern at the unacceptable rates of pedestrian injury and fatality in our community. What is most tragic of all is that so many children are at risk while walking or biking to school. I am committed to ensuring that children can arrive at school safe and ready to learn, and travel home safely again.

Many of our schools are working to ensure that our children know how to deal with the realities of modern traffic. I have enclosed samples of the traffic safety materials available from federal transportation agencies that may be of use in your classroom.

I have also included information on the U.S. Department of Education and its resources available to all schools, especially those pertaining to school safety. You will find an important publication about safe educational environments, a list of resources and organizations that may be of interest, and the Internet addresses and phone numbers you can use to obtain further information and additional resources.

I have been privileged to meet with so many local school officials, teachers and students during my work in Congress, and look forward to continuing my school visits and our work together. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loretta Sanchez".

LORETTA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress

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Please do not hesitate to let me know what kind of information you or your staff would like to see in future "Report Card" updates. As always, I hope you will not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you. I thank you for your work with our community's children, especially during this important week for our nation's veterans.

Very truly yours,



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